



# St Mary Immaculate & St Patrick's PARISH OF THE CLARENCE VALLEY

*Copmanhurst & Cowper*      *Grafton & South Grafton*



## Cowper

**Parish Office:** 2 Clarence Street  
**Phone:** 02 6643 9017  
**Email:**  
[admin@clarencevalleyparish.com.au](mailto:admin@clarencevalleyparish.com.au)  
**P.O. Box 577, Grafton NSW 2460**  
**Website:** [cvcparish.org.au](http://cvcparish.org.au)

**Office Hours:**  
8.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday

**St. Mary's Church, Grafton**  
Victoria Street, Grafton

**St Patrick's Church**  
Skinner Street, South Grafton

**Mary Immaculate Church**  
Cowper

**St John of the Cross**  
Copmanhurst

**McAuley Catholic College**  
Hennessy Drive, Clarenza  
**Phone:** 02 6643 1434  
**Email:** [sgrafs@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sgrafs@lism.catholic.edu.au)

**St. Mary's Primary School**  
Turf Street, Grafton  
**Phone:** 02 6642 2262  
**Email:** [grafp@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:grafp@lism.catholic.edu.au)

**St Joseph's Primary School**  
Hyde Street, South Grafton  
**Phone:** 02 6642 2899  
**Email:** [sgrafp@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sgrafp@lism.catholic.edu.au)

**Parish Priest:** Fr Felix Ekeh  
**Assist. Priest:**  
Fr Emmanuel Okparanaku



## Copmanhurst

**The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) - Year C**  
**2nd November 2025**

## Parish Family News

### *Embracing eternal life through Christ*

On All Soul's Day the Church invites each of us to remember and pray for the souls of our dear ones who have gone before us and for those who have no one to remember them.

In the tradition of the Catholic Church, praying for the souls who have died is one way to ask for God's grace of forgiveness and mercy, so they may enter the Kingdom of God that He has promised. Our prayers to support the faithfully departed are important because *"nothing unclean shall enter heaven"* (Revelation 21:27). It is our fundamental belief that we are never truly separated when we are united in prayer.

Today's scripture readings invite us to discover God's mercy and His loving grace for the salvation of humanity. Salvation is the work of God and His graciousness. It is God's desire to save us all. With firm faith in Christ's resurrection, Christians believe that, in death, life is transformed, not destroyed.

The Book of Wisdom depicts that people who live righteously before God - even demonstrating their faithfulness when tested by various challenges - will be blessed. As human beings, we hope to enter God's Kingdom after we pass from this world. Thus, we ask the Holy Spirit for the gift of hope, because the state of the world and life's challenges and difficulties can cause us to despair and even lead us to believe there is nothing after death. But as Christians we believe that the undying hope for salvation will ultimately be rewarded by God himself, because *"hope does not disappoint"* (Rom 5:5).

St Paul, in his first letter to the Corinthians, summarises the essence of today's celebration by saying, *"in Christ all shall be brought to life."* Jesus Christ's resurrection brings life. Through His resurrection, death is destroyed. As Paul explains, *"the last enemy to be destroyed is death"* (1Cor 15:26).

Christ is the New Adam who brought life through death. Only in and through Christ Jesus will we be saved. Salvation is the pure grace and gift of God, and it calls for our human response of faith. The gospel highlights the relationship between faith and eternal life, as Jesus teaches, *"For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life"* (John 6:40).

To enter eternal life requires faith, faith in Jesus as the Son of the Father who comes to show us the way to life. Jesus assures those who have faith and believe in him that they will experience resurrection and enjoy eternal life. This belief is the core of All Soul's Day.

So, with this celebration we come to the Lord in faith, praying that the souls of the dead, through God's mercy, may rest in peace. Amen.

*Fr Bence Baoninang CSSR © Majellan Media 2025*

**Television Free to Air—Channel Ten—Sunday Mass at 6am**

**Mass Sunday—Livestreamed** on Lismore Diocesan You Tube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDioceseAU>

Also the following has Mass on demand.  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYRq7AjiVimr-hcHFJD\\_HVaQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYRq7AjiVimr-hcHFJD_HVaQ)



## **DIARY OF THE WEEK: LITURGIES, DEVOTIONS ETC**

**Saturday 1st November** - All Saints

**8.30am Adoration at St Patrick's Church**

**9.00am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

**5.15pm—5.45pm Reconciliation at St Mary's Church**

**6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**Sunday 2nd November** - The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

**8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**8.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church Cowper**

**9.30am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

**Monday 3rd November** - NO MASS

**Tuesday 4th November** - St Charles Borromeo, bishop

**5.15pm Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**Wednesday 5th November**

**8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**Thursday 6th November**

**9.15am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

**Friday 7th November**

**11.30am—11.55am Reconciliation and**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**12.00noon Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**Saturday 8th November**

**9.00am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

**5.15pm—5.45pm Reconciliation at St Mary's Church**

**6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**Sunday 9th November** - The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

**8.00am Mass at St Mary's Church Grafton**

**8.00am Mass at Mary Immaculate Church Cowper**

**9.30am Mass at St Patrick's Church South Grafton**

### **Parish Notices**

**Friday 7th November—Catholic Women's League Meeting** at the McCarthy Centre—1pm. All welcome.



Welcome  
**Henry Spano**  
to the Catholic Community  
through the Sacrament of Baptism.

### **Schoolzine eNewsletter!**

**McAuley Catholic College**

<https://mcaulcgrafton.schoolzineplus.com/archive>

**St Mary's Primary School**

<https://grafplism.catholic.edu.au/schoolnews?nid=118>

**St Joseph's Primary School**

<https://sgrafplism.catholic.edu.au/enews?nid=129>

Or View/Download a PDF copy from the websites.

### **Please remember in your prayers:**

**Those who are sick and frail:** especially Clarry Saurine, Sally Beresford, Marg Perry, Marie Fitzgerald, Ezra Rutherford, Edward Morley, Matthew Bertalli, James Irwin, Allan Albert, Billy Eckersley, Marlene Cain (Hervey Bay), Margaret Gallagher (Cessnock), Lleyton Roughly, Veronica Graham, Gayle Owens, Paul Murphy, Derek Lentfer, Shane Lewis, Peter Cochrane, Paul Gallagher, Ian Huxley, Mary O'Brien, Rod Hughes, Dr Anselm Okechukwu, Alfred Morris, Lee Denton, Fr Anthony Lemon, Jeannette Davies, Margaret Knight, Bev Merrick (NZ), Eamon McLaughlin, Chris Small, Cheryl Kinnane, Dot Dougherty, Sandy Beadman, Gwen Haynes, Sonya Moore, Moya Ellem (Melb), Fay Ellem, John McAnally, Darcy Patricks, Eli Hagar, Shona Owens, Jacinta Frawley-Werger, Amanda Crawford, Aileen Whalan, Bree Brossman, & all those in hospital & Aged Care facilities.

**The Recently Deceased:** including Rex Kelly, Margaret McConnell, Judge Leonardo Demecillo, Douglas Kennedy, Michael Best (Lismore), Thomas Muir (Sydney), Dorothy Henry.

**Those whose Anniversaries are at this time:** including Fr Patrick McGuinness, Fr John Durkin, Fr James Young, Fr Michael O'Driscoll, Bernard Daly, Ines & Hubert Taylor, Alexander Taylor, Kathleen & Ernest Dahl, Colin Dahl, Laurie & Dinny Moran, Dennis Reilly, John Moran, Keith Ellem, Marie Murnane, Kevin Holmes, Gordon & Mary Solomon.

**Other Mass Intentions:** including Robert Daly, Don Bellamy, Mark Bellamy, and all the Holy Souls and November Intentions.

### **Mass Attendance**

\* Anyone who is unwell **should not** attend Mass.

\* Hand sanitiser will continue to be available.

**Thank you for your continued co-operation.**

### **Volunteers Required.**

We are very blessed in our parish to have such generous and dedicated volunteers who serve in various ways.

*We are in need of more volunteers.*

If you are able to assist with any of the following roles we would appreciate your help:

- \* Readers/Commentators
- \* Altar servers
- \* Washing of the Sacred Linens

Please phone or email the Parish Office.

November is a special time to pray for the dead. A plenary indulgence may be gained for the dead, once only, by visiting a church on 2 November and praying the Lord's Prayer and the Creed. Three conditions are required for gaining the indulgence: sacramental confession, eucharistic communion, and prayer for the pope's intentions. (Norms 15.7)

**Remembering Loved Ones: The Meaning of All Souls' Day**—Every year on **November 2**, Catholics around the world pause to remember those who have passed away. Known as **All Souls' Day**, this special day isn't just about sadness for our losses—it's a chance to reflect, pray, and celebrate the lives of our loved ones.

**A Bit of History**—The tradition of praying for the dead goes back to the early Church. From the very beginning, Christians believed in the **communion of saints**, the spiritual bond between the living and the departed. By the 10th–11th century, **St. Odilo of Cluny**, a French abbot, officially established November 2 as a day to pray for all the faithful departed.

All Souls' Day follows **All Saints' Day (November 1)**. While All Saints' Day honours those already in Heaven, All Souls' Day focuses on those still on their journey toward God—those in **Purgatory**. Over time, different countries have added local customs: in Mexico, it blends with the festive, **Día de los Muertos**, while in Europe, people light candles on graves and offer prayers.

**Why It Matters**—Catholics believe in the power of **prayer, charity, and Mass** to help souls on their journey to eternal life. All Souls' Day reminds us that death doesn't break the bonds of love—we can still care for those who have gone before us.

**How Catholics Celebrate—Attending Mass:** Offering the Eucharist for the souls of the departed.

**Visiting Cemeteries:** Praying, leaving flowers, or lighting candles. **Prayers at Home:** Some families create a small altar or light candles for their loved ones. **Acts of Charity:** Performing good deeds or offering prayers for the benefit of the deceased.

All Souls' Day is ultimately about **connection, prayer, and remembrance**. It's a day to pause, honour the lives that shaped ours, and trust in God's mercy for those who have passed.

### Grafton Prayer Circle

Praying for people in need of serious prayer - such as with cancer, heart attack, birth defects, marriage breakup, etc. It involves taking a phone call, passing it on - and praying ...

We are inviting new members to join us in this work of caring for each other. We usually receive 1 -2 calls a week. This week we are praying for a grandmother who has a recurring brain tumour.

Please call Anne Muldoon on 6642 3328 or Beverley Holmes on 0427 692 694. Also ring if you wish to go off the list of members.

### 2025 TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Clarence Valley Catholic Parish Trivia Night,  
Saturday 15th November

7.00pm Questions start 7.30pm

in Cowper Catholic Church Hall.

\$10.00 per head—tables of 8

**Time is running out -**

**Organise your table for a fun night.**



To book your table or for more information phone :  
Ellen Moloney 0401021227 or Marie at the Parish  
Office 66439017

BYO drinks and nibbles, supper will be provided.

### MISSIONARIES OF

# HOPE

*among all peoples*



### Our Appeal will be held NEXT Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th November

Loana Wallace, Catholic Missions Diocesan Director—Diocese of Lismore will be speaking on the Missions work at Mass. *Thank you for your support of this valuable mission.*

For women like Sharon, who must choose between feeding their children or selling their crops to survive, and Grace, who risked her life travelling 160km for safe childbirth, hope comes through Sr Jane and Kayula. Through sustainable farming, Sr Jane helps women provide for their families. At the Chilonga Mission Hospital, Kayula ensures mothers and babies receive the dignity and care they deserve.

**This World Mission, we invite you to extend your generosity to help enhance the vital work of the Church. Your support can make a significant difference to the lives of many, offering hope and to the people of Zambia.**

*Appeal envelopes will be available.*



**catholic  
mission**

Freecall: 1800 257 296

[catholicmission.org.au/mission](http://catholicmission.org.au/mission)



| Weekend<br>November 8/9   | St Mary's Church<br>Saturday 6.00pm | St Mary's Church<br>Sunday 8.00am | St Patrick's Church<br>Sunday 9.30am | Mary Immaculate<br>Sunday 8.00am |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Commentator               | Gail Ward                           | Matt Green                        | Lynne Higham                         | Basil Moran                      |
| Reader                    | Jacki Moore                         | Margaret Bertalli                 | Ann McCabe                           | Lesley McFarlane                 |
| Extraordinary<br>Minister | Joseph Golden                       | Tom Howard                        | Gary Scurrah                         |                                  |

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah 25: 6-9**

*The Lord God will destroy death for ever.*

On this mountain,  
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples  
a banquet of rich food.

On this mountain he will remove  
the mourning veil covering all peoples,  
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,  
he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord God will wipe away  
the tears from every cheek;  
he will take away his people's shame  
everywhere on earth,  
for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God  
in whom we hoped for salvation;  
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice  
that he has saved us.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 26**

**R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The  
Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I  
shrink? **R.**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long, to live in  
the house of the Lord, all the days of my life, to savour the  
sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple. **R.**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face. **R.**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the  
living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the  
Lord! **R.**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
5: 5-11**

*Having been justified by his blood, we will be saved from  
God's anger through him.*

Hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been  
poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been  
given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed  
moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die  
even for a good man - though of course for someone  
really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what  
proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while  
we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous,  
is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's  
anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death  
of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have  
been reconciled, surely we may count on being saved  
by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been  
reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in  
God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we  
have already gained our reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

This is the will of my Father, says the Lord, that I should lose  
nothing of all that he has given to me, and that I should raise  
it up on the last day.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Luke 7: 11-17**

*Young man, I say to you, get up.*

Jesus went to a town called Nain, accompanied by his disci-  
ples and a great number of people. When he was near the  
gate of the town it happened that a dead man was being  
carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she  
was a widow. And a considerable number of the towns-  
people were with her. When the Lord saw her he felt sorry  
for her. 'Do not cry,' he said. Then he went up and put his  
hand on the bier and the bearers stood still, and he said,  
'Young man, I tell you to get up'. And the dead man sat up  
and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Every-  
one was filled with awe and praised God saying, 'A great  
prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his peo-  
ple'. And this opinion of him spread throughout Judaea  
and all over the countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Communion Antiphon:** I am the Resurrection and the Life,  
says the Lord. Whoever believes in me, even though he  
dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me  
will not die for ever.

**Next Week's Readings:** (*Dedication of the Lateran Basilica  
Year C*) Ezekiel 47:1-2. 8-9. 12; 1 Corinthians 3:9-11. 16-17;  
John 2:13-22

**Safeguarding Children and Young People?**

We ask that parents are  
accompanying and supervising  
their own children at all times.  
Your child's safety is our priority  
please ensure you can always see  
them whilst on Parish grounds.

Safeguarding Office:  
P: 02 6621 9444 (Chancery)  
E: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

**Planned Giving - Details for electronic funds transfer (EFT).**

Banking details are:

**Second Collection** - for support of our Parish, including  
maintenance of our churches and parish buildings, parish  
office wages and administration expenses.

**BSB: 062546 Account Number: 00800690**  
**Name: Grafton Catholic Church.**

**First Collection** - for the support of our clergy locally and in  
the Diocese.

**BSB: 062546 Account Number: 00800535**  
**Name: RC Lismore Presbyterium Grafton**

In the details section of your online deposits please record  
your surname or Planned Giving number eg **Smith or PG500.**



Diocesan  
Investment  
Fund

**Interest Rate Change to  
3.40% from 1st November, 2025**

**For further information and our current interest rate,  
please visit our website. [www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) or  
contact us on 1800 802 516**

*The DIF contributes to the printing of the weekly newsletter.*